

include Chair of the Public Information Committee of the American Water Works Association, the Central Jersey National Council of Community and Justice, the Charity Committee of the Diocese of Metuchen, Raritan Bay Healthcare Foundation, and the Perth Amboy Neighborhood Empowerment Council Economic Development Task Force. Bernadette's strong record in the business community at the Middlesex Water Company and her commitment to public service demonstrate her outstanding achievements in the public and private sectors.

It is an honor to recognize Bernadette M. Sohler's efforts and congratulate her on receiving the 2000 Chamber of Commerce Member of the Year Award from the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce.●

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH JONASKY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Elizabeth Jonasky of Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey on the momentous occasion of her 105th birthday. Mrs. Jonasky will reach this wonderful milestone on November 5th of this year, and I feel it fitting that we acknowledge this special moment.

As I ponder all of the marvels and tragedies of our world that Elizabeth Jonasky has witnessed, I am reminded of the profound words of the Greek philosopher Plato, who once said, "It gives me great pleasure to converse with the aged. They have been over the road that all of us must travel, and know where it is rough and difficult and where it is level and easy."

It is a honor to wish Mrs. Jonasky the best of happiness on her birthday. It is my sincere hope that we will be able to continue to learn about life's rough and easy spots from her for sometime to come.●

IN RECOGNITION OF FATHER ROBERT COUNSELMAN

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor Father Robert Counselman, who received the 2000 William E. Short Award from the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce. Through his exemplary service to the community, Father Counselman has shown his dedication and commitment to numerous civic institutions within and outside of the church.

Father Counselman serves as Chaplain to the Woodbridge Township Police Department and the Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce. He is an active participant in several civic and private institutions such as Habitat for Humanity, the Woodbridge Historical League, the Community Advisory Panel, and the Woodbridge Historic Preservation Commission. He was also instrumental in setting up a "Soup Kitchen" at Trinity Church, which provides free meals on Fridays. In addition,

he helped establish a community playground, and is always available to assist people in their times of need.

It is an honor to recognize Father Robert Counselman's work and congratulate him on receiving the William E. Short Award from the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce.●

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN A. HOFFMAN ESQ.

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize John A. Hoffman Esq., a lifelong resident of central New Jersey, as the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year. John has participated in numerous business, legal, and community affairs for more than 35 years and has established a remarkable record of success.

Mr. Hoffman joined the firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer in 1963, and is currently a managing partner. He represents major corporate and government clients such as PSE&G, Verizon New Jersey, Inc., Elizabeth Town Water Company, the Middlesex County Utilities Authority, and the New Jersey Performing Arts Center. John also serves as a member on several boards such as the Middlesex County College Foundation, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital Foundation, Sister Cities Program of New Brunswick, and the New Jersey Client Security Fund. John has devoted his life to the practice of law and has used his experience and vision to lead and advise several other institutions in New Jersey. It is his extensive service to these institutions and their continued success that our State of New Jersey owes a great debt of gratitude.

It is an honor to recognize Mr. Hoffman's work and extend my congratulations to him on receiving the 2000 Citizen of the Year Award from the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce.●

IN RECOGNITION OF LEE VETLAND

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Lee Vetland, the Woodbridge Chamber of Commerce Small Business Person of the Year. As owner of Lee's Auto Body, Inc. in Avenel, New Jersey, Mr. Vetland has turned his business into a highly respected and successful enterprise.

Lee's Auto Body opened for business in 1975 with three employees. Since that time, through his own industry, hard work, and a strong work ethic, Lee has seen his business grow to 21 employees. His efforts and commitment extend to other areas besides his entrepreneurship. Lee is the Chairman of the Board for Auto Body Distributing Company, Vice President of the Auto Body Shop Association in New Jersey (A.A.S.P.N.J.), a member of the Advisory Board for the Amoco Dealer Panel, and the Governor's Task Force

on insurance fraud. While Lee has excelled in the auto body business, his expertise and knowledge have benefitted numerous organizations and associations throughout New Jersey as well.

It is an honor to recognize Mr. Vetland's achievements and extend my congratulations to him for receiving the 2000 Small Business Person of the Year Award from the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I stand today to congratulate the Middlesex County Division of the American Cancer Society for being honored with the Community Service Award by the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce. The Middlesex Unit offers a wide array of programs and resources to help people learn about new treatments for cancer, arrange for home care, locate medical supplies and uplift patients with cancer and their families.

The Middlesex Unit is dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by taking pro-active measures to save lives and diminish the suffering of cancer patients through research, education, advocacy, and service. The Middlesex County Division's commitment to reducing the effects of cancer through medical means as well as its commitment to helping patients through financial assistance illustrates the Division's unique and humane approach to aiding patients with cancer. Their services have been of great benefit to countless individuals in Middlesex County.

It is an honor to recognize the work of the Middlesex County Division of the American Cancer Society and congratulate them on receiving the Woodbridge Metro Chamber of Commerce's 2000 Community Service Award.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:08 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3646) for the relief of certain Persian Gulf evacuees.